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**Published:**

- With international search report.
- Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments.

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.



**WO 01/22347 A1**

(54) Title: BUSINESS CARD SYSTEMS

(57) Abstract: A system for providing Web-based personal contact management comprises business cards imprinted with a unique personal identification code and an Internet-based server remotely accessible by receivers using Internet browser equipped client devices. The unique personal identification code of the individual's business card is associated with a record of the personal details associated with each. A Receiver of a coded business card can search for, download and locally save said personal details of an individual by simply inputting said unique personal identification code into a search engine provided by the Internet-based server which is accessed by the World Wide Web.

**BUSINESS CARD SYSTEMS**Field Of The Invention

5           The present invention relates to a novel form of business card as well as novel systems for implementing, using and transmitting said business card. More particularly, the present invention relates to a business card which has imprinted thereon a personal identification code, which, when input into a network by the receiver of the card of the present invention, returns the contact information of the card giver.

Background Of The Invention

10           It has long been a common practice for people, particularly in the business community, to carry paper-stock cards on which was imprinted certain contact information. Such cards have been referred to as business cards or visit cards. As the business world has moved into a state where personal contact is increasingly complemented by an electronic enhancement, there has been a noticeable shift of reliance on forms of personal contact information managers. Most business people now maintain an arsenal of a combination of a plurality of devices including e-mail, paper business cards, personal data assistants (PDAs) for exchanging such contact information. For example, one PDA may be used to beam an  
15           electronic business card directly into an adjacent PDA using infrared ports. However old-fashioned they may seem, paper business cards are still extremely useful and cannot quite be replaced due to their simplicity and ease of availability and transfer.

20           However, many complex solutions have been sought for ways to automate the process of transferring the information on a paper business card into the electronic form for use in computers and PDAs. These methods can be quite cumbersome, for example, one requiring small business card-sized scanners which are hard-wire linked to a computer, and which perform an OCR (optical character recognition) operation on the card and then might have complex software for transferring the information into the appropriate fields of a contact manager database, such as Microsoft Corp.'s Outlook Contacts, Symantec's Act! and  
25           others.  
30

Additionally, once the information has been transferred by the receiver into his contact manager, the card giver has [a] no way of knowing to whom he gave his card (unless he wrote down the name and contact information of each receiver; [b] he has no way of advising all of the card recipient's if there is a change in the information; and [c] nor can he tailor the content of each card to the type of recipient to, for example, provide certain information on the business card to certain recipients and more in-depth information to others.

In the past, one electronic way to update card recipients of changes, was to keep an independent record in one's own e-mail program of who received what and then do a broadcast e-mail to everyone on the list of the change in the contact information. Quite a cumbersome method and undoubtedly bothersome to those recipient's who don't want the information to begin with.

Considering the limited amount of information typically contained in a business card, its utility is amazingly broad. In fact, it is a common practice for professionals in a variety of disciplines to routinely enter the information in business cards into their address databases for subsequent reference, and/or for mailing of announcements, seasonal greeting cards etc.

Thus, it is desirable to be able to model business card exchanges for electronic network entry. It is further desirable to be able to capture the information in the exchanged "business cards" for subsequent retrieval. As will be disclosed in more detail below, the method and apparatus of the present invention achieves these and other desirable results.

For a better understanding of the state of the art prior to the invention hereof, reference may be had to US Patent No. 5,940,595 and the related patents, applications and references cited therein, none of which are believed to address the problems or solutions thereto herein proposed.

#### Objects And Summary Of The Invention

It is an object of the present invention to provide a business card system which comprises the best features of traditional printed hard copy business cards printed on paper stock with the ease,

convenience and added utility of electronic or computer-based contact managers and network based e-mail capabilities.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide a paper or plastic business card for subscribers (card givers), the details of which can be automatically downloaded into the card receiver's electronic database by simply accessing the business card database via the Internet and entering a unique code imprinted on the card.

It is still a further object of the present invention to allow tiered levels of information to be available to select receivers of the card, enabling selective information access, the selection being at the will of the subscriber (card giver).

It is a further object of the present invention to track and record the origination details of receivers, i.e. those who received a business card and are requesting that the information be downloaded to their computers or personal digital assistants or other contact manager.

It is yet a further object of the present invention to utilize the recorded origination information about the receivers to enable the subscriber to notify all those who have downloaded his information about changes to the information in the personal details file.

These objects as well as others not specifically enumerated herein are achieved by the present invention in which a card giver, hereinafter a subscriber, registers to participate with the Administrator of the Business Card Database, either via electronic registration over a computer network or by fax, phone or mail registration.

On an Internet-accessible server computer, Database Administrator creates a file Account for use exclusively by the subscriber. The account is assigned or linked with a username and password; and is also assigned a unique code – either generated by a code generating algorithm, or it could be generated randomly or simply consist of a combination of Subscriber-specific parameters such as subscriber's country telephone code and local telephone number.

In conjunction with setting up the Internet-accessible database file, a quantity of cards made of paper stock or imprintable plastic such as those known to be used as calling cards or business cards are imprinted with the unique code, and/or alternatively with other selected details about the Subscriber.

5 In parallel with printing and distribution of the imprinted cards, the subscriber uses a computer having access to the Internet in order to access the Database via the Web site of the Database Administrator using his username and password where instructed in order to access his Account file. The subscriber is then prompted to input or edit his basic personal data, such as name, address, phone numbers, facsimile numbers. The subscriber could also create put in more detailed information or information specially  
10 intended for access by special clients. This can be accomplished by making sub-boxes or granting access to tiered levels of information either by giving received additional access code or in answer to special request of the client (see below).

Imprinted cards are distributed to potential customers, clients, etc. (hereinafter "Receivers") during the  
15 normal course of business or social life.

Receiver then accesses Database via a remote computer which is networked to the Database computer.

Receiver is offered option to either sign in (become a new Subscriber) or to input the unique code  
20 provided on the Subscriber's card in order to access, record and optionally download Subscriber's information.

#### Options

Format of Downloaded Information - Receiver can be given options for different computer-readable  
25 formats for download to take place, i.e. in a format readable by various Personal Digital Assistants, Personal Computer format, database formats, contact manager software applications, etc.

Additional Information - Receiver might wish to request additional information in which case Receiver activates "button" on computer screen which causes request for additional information to be generated  
30 and passed to Subscriber. Subscriber then can decide to grant to receiver access to a higher tier where

requested information is already contained in database or Subscriber can send the requested information directly to Receiver by any means, including electronic via electronic mail, fax, telephone, mail.

Optionally, Receiver might wish additional information and have been provided by Subscriber with optional additional access code, in which case Receiver may input additional access code and download of additional information begins.

Receivers Database - Program is designed to record where inquiries are originating from and thus cause to be compiled a listing or database of Receivers (locations from which info requests were made).

Alternatively, the program may simply include an authorization applet which is downloaded to a Receiver and when activated offers to include Receiver on a list of those desiring to be notified when the personal details of the Subscriber are changed. If the Receiver accepts the offer, then the applet generates an e-mail type form for completion by the Receiver and transmission back to the server. The e-mail type form would either ask receiver to indicate where such notice should be sent or could be programmed to automatically detect Receiver's e-mail program and get such information from Receiver's Internet Browser settings.

This Receivers Database may be used to inform all Receivers when Subscriber has changed any personal data contained in his record.

Notice may optionally simply indicate that change has occurred and invite Receiver to revisit the Subscriber Database to download the amended file.

Additionally, notice could advise receiver of the nature of the change in the file.

As a further option, the notice could be an a small program which enquires whether Receiver wants to updated information downloaded to PC or PDA and if activated, enquires as to which format information should be retrieved in and then it retrieves and downloads the information to receiver's computer as requested.

Brief Description Of The Drawings

The detailed description which follows will be est understood with reference to the drawings in which:

FIG. 1 is an exemplary embodiment of a registration display for enrolling in an electronic business card program in accordance with the present invention;

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FIG. 2 is an exemplary embodiment of an acknowledgement transmitted to the client computer of a user who has enrolled in the electronic business card program in accordance with the present invention;

10

FIG. 3 is an exemplary embodiment of a search engine input/output screen for use with the electronic business card program in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 4 is an exemplary embodiment of an import utility screen for use with the electronic business card program in accordance with the present invention; and

15

FIG. 5 is an exemplary embodiment of a reporting screen for use with the electronic business card program in accordance with the present invention.

Detailed Description Of Exemplary Embodiments

An exemplary embodiment of the present invention is described hereinbelow, however it should be recognized that the scope of the invention is not limited by the description of the exemplary embodiment and is only limited by the scope of the claims which follow. It is anticipated that one of skill in the art can make many variations and modifications to the present invention without departing from the scope or spirit of the claimed invention.

- 1) A subscriber, having a client device such as a PC, WAP phone or PDA, which has access to the Internet and is provided with a Web browser, registers with a Database Administrator, either via electronic registration over a computer network or by fax, phone or mail registration.
  - a) On an Internet-accessible server computer, Database Administrator creates a file Account for use exclusively by Subscriber;
  - b) Account is assigned or linked with a username and password which Subscriber can use to enter and maintain the personal details of the record associated with the Account ; and
  - c) Account and the personal details therein are also associated with and assigned a unique personal identification code – either generated by a code generating algorithm, or it could be generated randomly or simply consist of a combination of Subscriber-specific parameters such as subscriber's country telephone code and local telephone number.
- 2) A quantity of cards made of paper stock or imprintable plastic such as those known to be used as calling cards or business cards are imprinted with the unique personal identification code, and/or alternatively with other selected details about the Subscriber. The cards may be of any size similar to that of known business cards, or variations thereon, as long as the cards can be conveniently carried by subscriber and distributed to receivers. Typical dimensions of such cards are 2-1/2 inches in height by 3-1/2 inches in length.
- 3) The Subscriber then uses a computer having access to the Internet in order to access the Database via the Web site of the Database Administrator.
  - a) Subscriber inputs username and password where instructed in order to access his Account file.



- b) Subscriber is then prompted to input or edit basic personal data, such as name, address, phone numbers, facsimile numbers.
- c) Subscriber could also put in more detailed information or information specially intended for access by special clients. This can be accomplished by making sub-boxes or granting access to tiered levels of information either by giving Receiver additional access code or in answer to special request of the client (see below).

4) Imprinted Cards are distributed to potential customers, clients, etc. (hereinafter "Receivers") during the normal course of business or social life.

5) Receiver then accesses Database via a remote computer which is networked to the Database computer.

6) Receiver is offered option to either sign in (become a new Subscriber) or to input the unique code provided on the Subscriber's card in order to access, record and optionally download Subscriber's information.

7) Options

- a) Format of Downloaded Information - Receiver can be given options for different computer-readable formats for download to take place, i.e. in a format readable by various Personal Digital Assistants, Personal Computer format, database formats, contact manager software applications, etc.
- b) Additional Information - Receiver might wish to request additional information in which case Receiver activates "button" on computer screen which causes request for additional information to be generated and passed to Subscriber. Subscriber then can decide to grant to receiver access to a higher tier where requested information is already contained in database or Subscriber can send the requested information directly to Receiver by any means, including electronic via electronic mail, fax, telephone, mail.
- i) Optionally, Receiver might wish additional information and have been provided by Subscriber with optional additional access code or variation on the unique personal

identification code, in which case Receiver may input additional access code and download of additional information begins.

- 5 c) Receivers Database - Program is designed to record where inquiries are originating from and thus cause to be compiled a listing or database of Receivers (locations from which info requests were made).
- i) This Receivers Database may be used to inform all Receivers when Subscriber has changed any personal data contained in his record.
- 10 ii) Notice may optionally simply indicate that change has occurred and invite Receiver to revisit the Subscriber Database to download the amended file.
- iii) Additionally, notice could advise receiver of the nature of the change in the file.
- iv) As a further option, the notice could be a small program which enquires whether Receiver wants to updated information downloaded to PC or PDA and if activated, enquires as to which format information should be retrieved in and then it retrieves and downloads the information to receiver's computer as requested.

What is claimed is:

- 1) A system for providing personal contact management comprising:
  - a) business cards imprinted with a unique personal identification code, said unique personal identification code being associated with personal details of an individual; and
  - 5 b) An Internet-based server remotely accessible by Receivers using Internet browser equipped client devices, said server having a database comprising records of said unique personal identification codes and the personal details associated therewith; whereby a Receiver can search for, download and locally save said personal details of an individual by inputting said unique personal identification code.
- 10 2) The system of claim 1, wherein said server further downloads to said client device a tracking program.
- 3) The system of claim 2, whereby said Receiver can optionally activate said tracking program  
15 thereby sending an authorization to said server requesting automatic updating of future changes to said personal details associated with said unique personal identification code.
- 4) The system of claim 1, wherein said personal identification code may have subvariations, whereby  
20 the inputting of different subvariations results in granting to different Receivers different levels of access, thereby permitting custom tiering of the kind of personal details which will be available to the Receiver entering the code.
- 5) The system of claim 3, whereby the individual broadcasts changes in the personal details  
25 associated with said unique personal identification code by inputting said new data into said database on said Internet server through said browser of said client device, and activating programming to send change notifications to those Receivers who have authorized automatic updating.

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FIG. 1

**Registrate a New  $\Sigma$  VisitCard**

Full Name:

Company:

Address:

Country:  ▼

Telephone:

Cellular Phone:

E-Mail:

Other:

Ok

FIG. 2

**Registrate a New  $\Sigma$ VisitCard**

Your request had been accepted.

Your  $\Sigma$ VisitCard number is  $\Sigma$ 97239243681.

Next time you'll print your visit card add  
that number as the  $\Sigma$ VisitCard number.

So if someone want to add your visit card  
to his Electronic Address Book he'll only  
have to enter that number.

Ok

FIG. 3

The image shows a screenshot of a web application interface. At the top, the text "Find a  $\Sigma$  VisitCard" is displayed. Below this, there is a search bar with the number "97239243681" entered, followed by a "Search" button. Below the search bar, the text " $\Sigma$  VisitCard Found" is displayed, followed by a "Continue" button. Below the "Continue" button, the text "Find Again" is displayed. Below the "Find Again" button, the following information is listed: "Full Name: Bob Cohen", "Company: Microsoft", "Address: Jabotiski 12, Tel-Aviv", "Country: Israel", "Telephone: 039243681", "Cellular Phone: n/a", "E-Mail: bobcohen@microsoft.com", and "Other: Marketing Manager".

**Find a  $\Sigma$  VisitCard**

$\Sigma$  :  Search

$\Sigma$  VisitCard Found [Continue](#)

[Find Again](#)

Full Name: Bob Cohen  
Company: Microsoft  
Address: Jabotiski 12, Tel-Aviv  
Country: Israel  
Telephone: 039243681  
Cellular Phone: n/a  
E-Mail: bobcohen@microsoft.com  
Other: Marketing Manager

FIG. 4

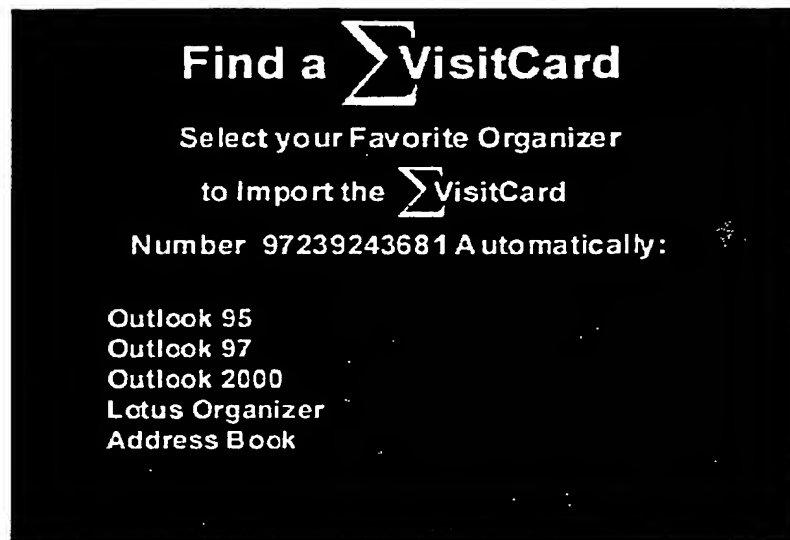
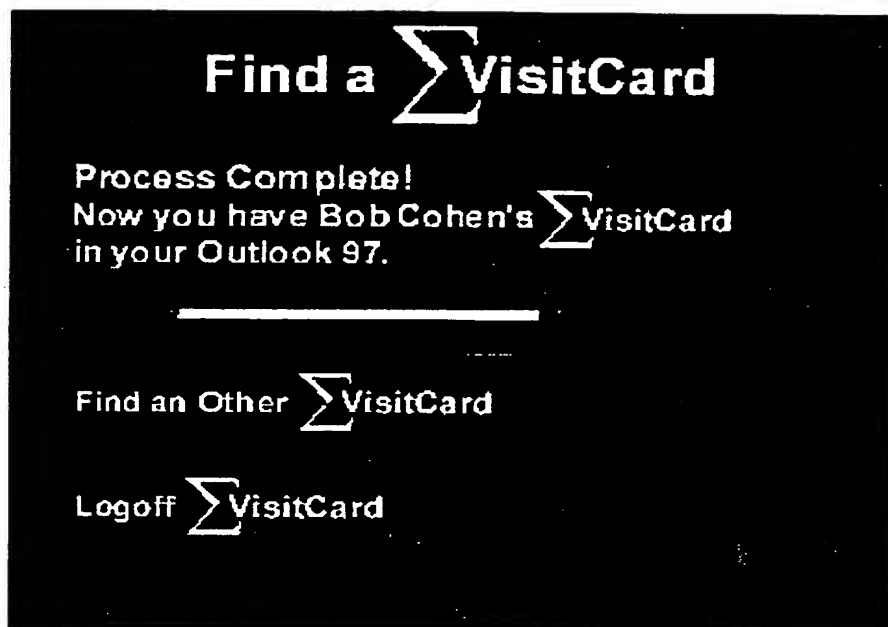


FIG. 5





## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

 International application No.  
 PCT/IL00/00574

<b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b> IPC(7) : G06K 7/10, 9/00; G06F 15/00, 15/16; H04M 15/00 US CL : 235/462.46; 705/44; 379/14.144; 382/115; 710/5 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
<b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b> Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) U.S. : 235/462.46; 705/44; 379/14.144; 382/115; 710/5 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched NONE Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) WEST		
<b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X, P	US 6,012,102 A (SHACHAR) 04 January 2000, the entire paper is relevant	1-5
Y	US 5,640,002 A (RUPPERT ET AL.) 17 June 1997, fig. 35B and the abstract is relevant	1
Y	US 5,748,908 A (YU) 05 May 1998, the entire paper is relevant	1-5
Y	US 5,764,742 A (HOWARD et al.) 09 June 1998, the entire paper is relevant	1-5
Y	US 5,805,719 A (PARE, Jr. et al.) 08 September 1998, the entire paper is relevant	1-5
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.		
* Special categories of cited documents: "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art "&" document member of the same patent family		
Date of the actual completion of the international search 16 JANUARY 2001		Date of mailing of the international search report 15 FEB 2001
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230		Authorized officer THUY PARDO Telephone No. (703) 305-9707 <i>Peggy Hanood</i>

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/US00/00574

## C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,915,007 A (KLAPKA) 22 June 1999, the entire paper is relevant	1-5

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

NOTICE INFORMING THE APPLICANT OF THE  
COMMUNICATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
APPLICATION TO THE DESIGNATED OFFICES

(PCT Rule 47.1(c), first sentence)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

CHIRNOMAS, Mordechai  
Shiboleth Yisraeli Roberts Zisman  
& Co.  
Montefiore 46  
65201 Tel Aviv  
ISRAËL

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 29 March 2001 (29.03.01)		
Applicant's or agent's file reference A-363-1 PCT		IMPORTANT NOTICE
International application No. PCT/IL00/00574	International filing date (day/month/year) 17 September 2000 (17.09.00)	
Priority date (day/month/year) 17 September 1999 (17.09.99)		
Applicant SANCHO, Enrique, David et al		

1. Notice is hereby given that the International Bureau has communicated, as provided in Article 20, the international application to the following designated Offices on the date indicated above as the date of mailing of this Notice:  
AU,KP,KR,US

In accordance with Rule 47.1(c), third sentence, those Offices will accept the present Notice as conclusive evidence that the communication of the international application has duly taken place on the date of mailing indicated above and no copy of the international application is required to be furnished by the applicant to the designated Office(s).

2. The following designated Offices have waived the requirement for such a communication at this time:

AE,AG,AL,AM,AP,AT,AZ,BA,BB,BG,BR,BY,BZ,CA,CH,CN,CR,CU,CZ,DE,DK,DM,DZ,EA,EE,EP,ES,  
FI,GB,GD,GE,GH,GM,HR,HU,ID,IL,IN,IS,JP,KE,KG,KZ,LC,LK,LR,LS,LT,LU,LV,MA,MD,MG,MK,  
MN,MW,MX,MZ,NO,NZ,OA,PL,PT,RO,RU,SD,SE,SG,SI,SK,SL,TJ,TM,TR,TT,TZ,UA,UG,UZ,VN,YU.  
The communication will be made to those Offices only upon their request. Furthermore, those Offices do not require the applicant to furnish a copy of the international application (Rule 49.1(a-bis)).

3. Enclosed with this Notice is a copy of the international application as published by the International Bureau on 29 March 2001 (29.03.01) under No. WO 01/22347

## REMINDER REGARDING CHAPTER II (Article 31(2)(a) and Rule 54.2)

If the applicant wishes to postpone entry into the national phase until 30 months (or later in some Offices) from the priority date, a demand for international preliminary examination must be filed with the competent International Preliminary Examining Authority before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date.

It is the applicant's sole responsibility to monitor the 19-month time limit.

Note that only an applicant who is a national or resident of a PCT Contracting State which is bound by Chapter II has the right to file a demand for international preliminary examination.

## REMINDER REGARDING ENTRY INTO THE NATIONAL PHASE (Article 22 or 39(1))

If the applicant wishes to proceed with the International application in the national phase, he must, within 20 months or 30 months, or later in some Offices, perform the acts referred to therein before each designated or elected Office.

For further important information on the time limits and acts to be performed for entering the national phase, see the Annex to Form PCT/IB/301 (Notification of Receipt of Record Copy) and Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Authorized officer  J. Zahra
Facsimile No. (41-22) 740.14.35	Telephone No. (41-22) 338.83.38

## Continuation of Form PCT/IB/308

**NOTICE INFORMING THE APPLICANT OF THE COMMUNICATION OF  
THE INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION TO THE DESIGNATED OFFICES**

<b>Date of mailing</b> (day/month/year) 29 March 2001 (29.03.01)	<b>IMPORTANT NOTICE</b>
<b>Applicant's or agent's file reference</b> A-363-1 PCT	<b>International application No.</b> PCT/IL00/00574
<p>The applicant is hereby notified that, at the time of establishment of this Notice, the time limit under Rule 46.1 for making amendments under Article 19 has not yet expired and the International Bureau had received neither such amendments nor a declaration that the applicant does not wish to make amendments.</p>	

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the  
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

To:

MORDECHAI CHIRNOMAS  
SHIBOLETH YSIRAEI ROBERTS ZISMAN & CO.  
MONTEFIORE 46  
TEL AVIV, ISRAEL 65201

**PCT**

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF  
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Rule 71.1)

Date of Mailing  
(day/month/year)

**07 AUG 2001**

Applicant's or agent's file reference

**A-363-1 PCT****IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION**

International application No.

**PCT/IL00/00574**

International filing date (day/month/year)

**17 SEPTEMBER 2000**

Priority Date (day/month/year)

**17 SEPTEMBER 1999**

Applicant

**SANCHO, ENRIQUE DAVID**

1. The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary examination report and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
2. A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translation to those Offices.
4. **REMINDER**

The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paying national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices) (Article 39(1)) (see also the reminder sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/IB/301).

Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.

For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

Name and mailing address of the IPEA/US  
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Box PCT  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Authorized officer

**THOMAS BLACK***Peggy Harrod*

Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230

Telephone No. (703) 305-9707

Form PCT/IPEA/416 (July 1992) ★

## TENT COOPERATION TREA

## PCT

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference A-363-1 PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/IL00/00574	International filing date (day/month/year) 17 SEPTEMBER 2000	Priority date (day/month/year) 17 SEPTEMBER 1999
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC Please See Supplemental Sheet.		
Applicant SANCHO, ENRIQUE DAVID		

<p>1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>4</u> sheets.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority. (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).</p> <p>These annexes consist of a total of <u>0</u> sheets.</p>	
<p>3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p>I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report</p> <p>II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority</p> <p>III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of report with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability</p> <p>IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention</p> <p>V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p>VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited</p> <p>VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application</p> <p>VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application</p>	

Date of submission of the demand 16 APRIL 2001	Date of completion of this report 30 MAY 2001
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/US Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231	Authorized officer <i>Peggy Harnood</i> THOMAS BLACK
Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Telephone No. (703) 305-9707

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/IL00/00574

## I. Basis of the report

## 1. With regard to the elements of the international application:\*

☒ the international application as originally filed☒ the description:

pages 1-10 , as originally filed  
 pages NONE , filed with the demand  
 pages NONE , filed with the letter of

☒ the claims:

pages 11 , as originally filed  
 pages NONE , as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19  
 pages NONE , filed with the demand  
 pages NONE , filed with the letter of

☒ the drawings:

pages 1-5 , as originally filed  
 pages NONE , filed with the demand  
 pages NONE , filed with the letter of

☒ the sequence listing part of the description:

pages NONE , as originally filed  
 pages NONE , filed with the demand  
 pages NONE , filed with the letter of

## 2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language \_\_\_\_\_ which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).  
☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).  
☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).

## 3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in printed form.  
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.  
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.  
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.  
☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.  
☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☒ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☒ the description, pages NONE  
☒ the claims, Nos. NONE  
☒ the drawings, sheets/fig. NONE

5. ☐ This report has been drawn as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).\*\*

\* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).

\*\*Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/IL00/00574

**V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement****1. statement**

Novelty (N)

Claims 1-5 YESClaims NONE NO

Inventive Step (IS)

Claims 1-5 YESClaims NONE NO

Industrial Applicability (IA)

Claims 1-5 YESClaims NONE NO**2. citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)**

Claims 1-5 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2)-(4), because the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest a business card which has imprinted a personal identification code and personal details, and an Internet-based server is remotely accessible by Receivers using Internet browser, said server having a database comprising records of the unique personal identification codes and personal details associated therewith; whereby a Receiver can search for, download and locally save the personal details of an individual by inputting the unique personal identification code.

----- NEW CITATIONS -----  
NONE



## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/IL00/00574

**Supplemental Box**

(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

Continuation of: Boxes I - VIII

Sheet 10

**CLASSIFICATION:**

The International Patent Classification (IPC) and/or the National classification are as listed below:

IPC(7): G06K 7/10, 9/00; G06F 15/00, 15/16; H04M 15/00 and US Cl.: 235/462.46; 705/44; 379/14,144; 382/115; 710/5

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/IL00/00574

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) :G06K 7/10, 9/00; G06F 15/00, 15/16; H04M 15/00

US CL :235/462.46; 705/44; 379/14.144; 382/115; 710/5

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 235/462.46; 705/44; 379/14.144; 382/115; 710/5

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

NONE

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

WEST

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X, P	US 6,012,102 A (SHACHAR) 04 January 2000, the entire paper is relevant	1-5
Y	US 5,640,002 A (RUPPERT ET AL.) 17 June 1997, fig. 35B and the abstract is relevant	1
Y	US 5,748,908 A (YU) 05 May 1998, the entire paper is relevant	1-5
Y	US 5,764,742 A (HOWARD et al.) 09 June 1998, the entire paper is relevant	1-5
Y	US 5,805,719 A (PARE, Jr. et al.) 08 September 1998, the entire paper is relevant	1-5

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	*T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
*A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	*X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
*E* earlier document published on or after the international filing date	*Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
*L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	*A* document member of the same patent family
*O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
*P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search

16 JANUARY 2001

Date of mailing of the international search report

15 FEB 2001

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US  
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Box PCT  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer

THUY PARDO

Telephone No. (703) 305-9707

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/IL00/00574

## C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,915,007 A (KLAPKA) 22 June 1999, the entire paper is relevant	1-5

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

421

PCT

NOTIFICATION CONCERNING  
AMENDMENTS OF THE CLAIMS(PCT Rule 62 and  
Administrative Instructions, Section 417)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Commissioner  
US Department of Commerce  
United States Patent and Trademark  
Office, PCT  
2011 South Clark Place Room  
CP2/5C24  
Arlington, VA 22202  
ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

in its capacity as International Preliminary Examining Authority

Date of mailing (day/month/year)

18 June 2001 (18.06.01)

International application No.

PCT/IL00/00574

International filing date (day/month/year)

17 September 2000 (17.09.00)

Applicant

SANCHO, Enrique, David et al

The International Bureau hereby informs the International Preliminary Examining Authority that no amendments under Article 19 have been received by the International Bureau (Administrative Instructions, Section 417).

The International Bureau of WIPO  
34, chemin des Colombettes  
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Facsimile No. (41-22) 740.14.35

Authorized officer

Odile ALIU

Telephone No. (41-22) 338.83.38

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

## NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Commissioner  
 US Department of Commerce  
 United States Patent and Trademark  
 Office, PCT  
 2011 South Clark Place Room  
 CP2/5C24  
 Arlington, VA 22202  
 ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE  
 in its capacity as elected Office

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 18 June 2001 (18.06.01)	
International application No. PCT/IL00/00574	Applicant's or agent's file reference A-363-1 PCT
International filing date (day/month/year) 17 September 2000 (17.09.00)	Priority date (day/month/year) 17 September 1999 (17.09.99)
Applicant SANCHO, Enrique, David	

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:



in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:

16 April 2001 (16.04.01)



in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:

2. The election ☒ was

was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Authorized officer Odile ALIU Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38
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